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HAND of GOD

Max Smoor



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The Hand of God



THE HAND OF GOD

In the Museum of the Luxembourg

FIRST VIEW

HAND of GOD

By Max Shoop

An Appreciation of Rodin's Study in Marble

NEW YORK
GEORGE H. DORAN COMPANY



The Hand of God

THE Master Mind had scarce conceived Its mighty thought divine,
Than straight his potent touch enwrapt
That thought in marble line.



THE form he hewed has symbolized A truth that God might utter,
To guide our wavering souls on earth
In dispute o'er mind and matter.



Out of an unshaped, infinite Mass, (So the thought of the Master ran), That forms Existence, whate'er it be, Stretches a wondrous hand,



WHOSE lines are blurred in infinite strength
To obey the Will behind,
Which myriad years have named alway,
God,—a Power,—yet blind.



BUT the Hand of God is a hand of Love,—
The hand of an Infinite Whole
That grasps a clod of its own self
To make the human soul.



THE HAND OF GOD

In the Museum of the Luxembourg

SECOND VIEW

PON that hand appears no strain,
Nor sign of human toil,—
Its task is done with infinite ease,
All human thought to foil.



WITH mystic pressure unseen by Man,
This Hand of God out-welds
A vintage of Life of finite vein,
As th' ethereal self-mass yields



To a visible form of God on Earth,—
A man and woman,—known
To us but by external sign:
The inner is his, alone.



YEA, a visible form of God on Earth,—
A man and woman, born
To live as units separate,—
A counterpart, asunder torn.



THE HAND OF GOD

In the Metropolitan Museum of Art

NEW YORK

A SORRY work our ignorance has wrought
Out of this plan, Above!—
For the Unit-two from the Mass are formed
With arms entwined in love:



So closely knit that thus they seem To ooze together, out the Mass, Lip to lip,—and heart to heart; Sympathy divine,—their clasp.



THUS, in love, from the Mass conceived,
By the pressure of Its own Hand,
Came a Human Pair, with will set free,
As God's ideal of Man.



HE has let them fall from His upraised Hand,

To be tossed in the world below,—

Piteously unable to ever see

Whence they came, or whither go!







